



## Message from Mrs How:

Welcome back to an action packed Summer Term! Every term seems to have its own mood and energy and in the Summer it is a sense of trying to cram a lot of things into a small time frame.

It is the term of formal assessments (SATs, phonics and multiplication checks etc.) as well as ongoing teacher assessments, where we help the children to showcase their learning and progress without any undue pressure or stress. Instead of parents evenings we send home reports to share information with parents about their children's progress and next steps.

There are class visits, performances, visits to secondary schools, sports day, bikeability sessions, Coronation activities, an author visit (more on that to follow) ..... and still lots of learning to fit in before the end of term. Many of the key dates are now included in our diary on page 2, so please make a note of what is relevant to you and keep checking back for any updates.

We will be celebrating the coronation of King Charles III on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May with a whole school assembly and various activities taking place. We invite the children to come dressed in red, white or blue to mark this special occasion. (No football kit/shirts please as this often leads to division rather than unity between some children)

We held our PTA AGM this week, so look out for news from our new committee next week.

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### Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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*"It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday  
is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow."*

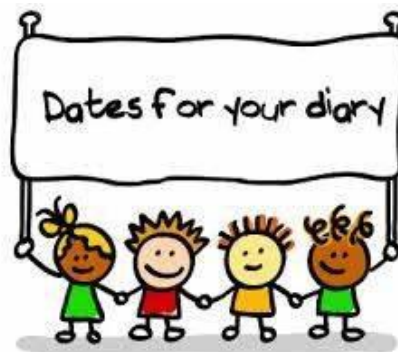
**Robert H Goddard**

### School Meal Charges Summer 2023

Daily:	£2.40
Weekly:	£12.00
1st half term	£64.80
2nd half term	£72.00
Whole term	£136.80

Please make payment for school lunches via Pay360 (formerly SIMS PAY) **in advance of meals taken.**

**We are now a 'cashless' school and will no longer accept either cash or cheques. If you need to set up a Pay360 account, please contact the office at [office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk)**



## April

26th Class photos

## May

1st Early May Bank Holiday  
3rd Reception class trip to Standalone Farm  
4th Year 5 Maths Challenge (selected children)  
5th Coronation assembly & activities  
8th Coronation Bank Holiday  
9th - 12th KS2 SATS week  
10th Year 3 trip to Burghley House  
23rd Year 6 visit to Burwell House  
29th - 2nd June Spring half term

## June

5th INSET day (children not in school)

## July

17th & 18th Year 6s at Bassingbourn Village College  
19th Last day of Summer term

## Absence Reporting

If your child is absent please advise us on 01763 852474 (Option 1) and leave a message on the absence line or email [office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk)

**Please don't message via Parentmail as we don't use this aspect of the system and so this won't be seen.**

## Home Time Arrangements

Please ensure that you advise the office by email on [office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk) by **12 noon** if your child's home time arrangement will be different from usual.

Please also remember that if your child is being collected with another child to let us know; we've had a number of occasions when the office has had to make last-minute phone calls at the end of the day for this reason.

# Notice Board

## Illness in School

If your child is absent from school, you must notify school by 9.30am of the reason for absence. If we haven't heard from you, we are obliged to investigate your child's absence.

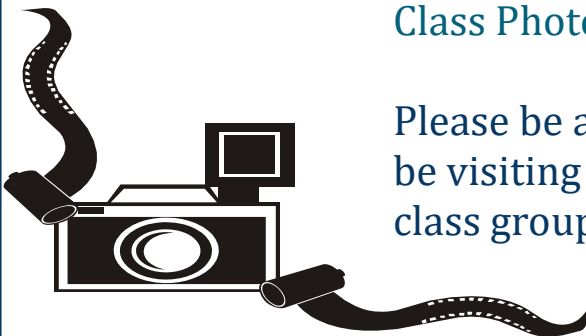
Condition	Absent for
Chickenpox	Five days from the onset of rash and all the lesions have crusted over
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted/healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment
Measles	4 days from onset of rash and once# recovered
Scarlet Fever	Exclude until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotic treatment completed
*Sickness and/or diarrhoea	Until 48 hours after last episode of sickness/diarrhoea
Conjunctivitis	None
**Headlice	None
Mumps	5 days after onset of swelling
Tonsillitis	None

Please see (left) a basic summary showing recommended times for children to be away from school when suffering from childhood diseases. A comprehensive list is available at [https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance\\_on\\_infection\\_control\\_in%20schools\\_poster.pdf](https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf)

\* For sickness and/or diarrhea it is essential to keep your child away from school **until 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea/vomiting**. These sorts of bugs can be transmitted very easily, particularly in school settings. We do encourage lots of hand-washing in school and would ask you to follow this at home, as well. Please remember if your child is unwell they will be much more comfortable at home with a parent or carer who can look after them much more closely than we can in school.

\*\*For advice on dealing with headlice please see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

## Class Photos



Please be aware that the school photographer will be visiting next Wednesday, 26th April to take class group photos.

## News from Starling Class (Reception)

This week we have been learning all about St George, why and how people around the world celebrate him and what makes him so special! The children were brilliant at retelling the famous story of St George rescuing a “fair maiden” from the fierce dragon using puppets and role play masks! The children used their creative skills to build and create shields and swords to protect themselves and slay the dragon but quickly found out that paper is seemingly not as durable nor as effective as St George’s sword would have been!

In Maths the children have built on their prior knowledge of numbers to 10 in order to practice counting on from a given number relating this practice to addition. In Phonics the children have been reviewing Phase 3 and showing Mrs Meridew how many graphemes they know and some have even been demonstrating applying their GPC knowledge to their writing independently... we almost fell off our chairs!

The words we have been learning this week are:

<b>Forbidden</b>	Something that is not allowed
<b>Fortuitous</b>	Something good that happens by chance
<b>Passive</b>	Said of someone who lets things happen and doesn't take action
<b>Conscious</b>	To be aware of what is happening around you
<b>Moral</b>	A set of principles of right and wrong behaviour

With only a couple of weeks to go until our visit to Standalone Farm, we would like to remind you that the date we go is Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Remember to refresh your memory about the details of the trip.





Please can we remind you that your child needs to bring in their book bag (complete with reading book, reading record, grapheme cards and HTRS word cards inside), a named water bottle, a named cardigan or jumper (even on sunny days) and as the days get warmer please ensure your child is wearing suncream and has a named hat available. If you haven't already, then please send in PE kits ready for next week and remember that Library books are changed every Monday. We will be inviting children to talk about their library books as part of our library session, so please do ensure they have a look at them with you.

Next week we will continue to think about knights and dragons but also thinking about fantasy creatures and royalty too! In Maths we will be counting back in order to take away and consider what makes something a safe or unsafe choice.

We hope you have a lovely weekend!

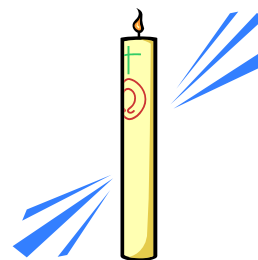


**Mrs. Meridew, Mrs. Monks, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Keech**

## Assemblies, Collective Worship and Reflection

Fiona Davis, our licensed lay minister visited twice this week. Firstly working with Annie, our Churchwarden and Sian from GenR8 to update our reflection/prayer space and then to join our assembly on Friday to explain how children could choose to use it over the coming weeks.

The theme is 'celebrations' which also encompasses the upcoming Coronation of King Charles III. Children have been asked to think about the celebrations they share with family and friends – why and how they celebrate, who is invited and how we can use these as opportunities to be welcoming and inclusive.



## News from Robin Class (Year 1)

It was lovely to welcome everyone back from the Easter Break on Tuesday morning, all eager to reconnect with their friends and tell of their news and adventures. We have heard super language suggestions, watched ideas being swapped and developed and seen some lovely writing over the last few days.

It was great to hear about some children having visited Toy Museums over the holiday and hear how they have been able to entertain and impress you with their knowledge and understanding about what was seen – thank you for sending bits and pieces in!

We have begun our “It’s a Bug’s Life” topic by thinking what we already know about ‘mini-beasts’ and ‘plants’, including what they need to grow and survive and where they live. We are going to be thinking about a selection of mini-beasts which the children have suggested, as well as start to grow some plants from their different-looking seeds.

In Maths, we have been thinking more about numbers to 50. Some children are finding this hard. Do help them by practicing counting in 10s as well as ones. We have also been mixing these up by starting counting at 10, then adding on ones.

Some children have been completing some Maths challenge cards to develop their thinking a little further, and have found they might need some more support to do these. This is all normal and we know they will find these tasks easier the more they do them.

Thank you so much for sending PE kits back to school already. We just need a couple more, and some need to remember to bring in trainers as we will be outside for most of our lessons this term. Children with long hair also need this tied up, especially for PE days which continue to be Tuesday and Friday.

It has also been great to see the return of nearly everyone’s water bottles! However, PLEASE can they be named! An ‘identifying addition’ is all very well, but it’s not always your child who needs to identify it. This becomes really tricky when bottles are outside and being sorted by an adult after play or lunch time.

We have noted that the weather may be cold again at the start of next week. PLEASE keep sending in coats for children as even an April/May shower can make us quite wet if they are out at play or lunch time and sitting in wet clothes isn’t ideal.

Have a lovely weekend!

**Mrs Bowmer, Mrs Andrews and the Year One Team**



# Coronation Celebration!

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Steeple Morden  
Recreation Ground  
3pm to 10pm

Tea, Cake & Kiddies Craft Tent  
Live Music, Food Stalls & Bar

**Come and Join the celebrations!**



## Coronation Celebration! Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Join our village event to mark the Coronation of HM King Charles the III.

Come and get involved at Steeple Morden Recreation ground and be part of the celebrations!

The event will start from 3pm where everyone can enjoy an afternoon and evening of entertainment. On stage will be local bands; Means of Escape, Outliers and the fabulous west end singer Natalie Woods!

A bar will be available and hot food on sale plus a Coronation themed Grand Prize Draw.

**Save The Date! See You There!**



To,  
Local residents, family, friends  
and four legged furries!  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## News from Owl Class (Year 2)

We have returned to school well rested and with an excitement for our new topic. This week we have gone on a deep dive in a submarine, explored the coral reefs, seen stingrays bury themselves and even been visited by a shark and a couple of mermaids! 'Voyage to bottom of the deep blue sea' will help us to explore habitats, animal adaptations for survival, plastic pollution as well as a geographical exploration of the world's seas and continents.





In our Maths lessons this week, we have started looking at our new block of learning 'Statistics'. We have made tally charts this week. One to represent how many Easter eggs we all got in the holidays, and the other to show the eye colours of the children in our class. We then looked at tables and block diagrams. We had a go at interpreting data and answering questions such as; 'what flavour of ice-cream was the most popular and which was least popular?' Finally, we learnt how to complete a set of data from some clues. Can you have a go at completing the table (right)?

**Complete Mo's table.**

Sport	Total
square	
circle	11
triangle	7
pentagon	



I saw 3 fewer squares than circles.

The number of pentagons was half the number of squares.

In our English lessons this week we have written a recount of our Easter holidays, and it sounds like everyone has had a great time on trips, cinema visits, play dates and time outdoors at the park or on walks. The children remembered a recount needs time connectives, to be written in the past tense and to use I. We have also completed a focussed read of a non-fiction book about the sea and the sea creatures living in it. Finally, we have looked at a 'Jellyfish Fact File' and written questions and statements from what we learnt.

Just a little reminder that our P.E days are Mondays and Wednesdays, so your child will need a full P.E kit in school (for both outdoor P.E and indoor P.E) on these days. If your child has long hair please could it be tied back on P.E days too – thank you.

Reminders	
Labelled water bottle	In school every day please
Reading books and reading	In school every day please
Yellow Spelling folders	In school on Mondays please, ready for the new
Spelling Frame	set every Monday
Mathletics	set every Friday
P.E kits in school	In school every day please including outdoor PE kit



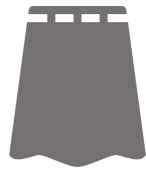
Thank you for your support and we hope you all have a lovely weekend.

**Mrs Luebcke, Miss Blesic, and the Year 2 Team.**



Second hand uniform sale  
after school Wednesday, 26th April  
donations in aid of the PTA

please bring your old uniform to the school office  
save money – help the environment – fund the PTA



To the parent's reading the Star.  
My name is Ffion from year 3, Peacock  
class. We are making a cook book  
and we would like to know your  
favourite recipes

Thanks for reading the Star and  
please send us your recipes.  
Thank you  
from year 3

Can you help  
Year 3 create  
a recipe  
book? See  
note from  
Ffion on  
behalf of the  
class asking  
for your  
favourite  
recipes.

Would you or anyone you know like to buy  
the school a book?

The school council have spoken with children and  
teachers about books we think we would enjoy  
reading in school. If anyone would ever feel like  
buying the school a book, we have set up a wish list.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/MR5YPP3Q5VM5>





## News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

What busy little bees we are!

Friday, was of course our Celtic day and what a day it turned out to be! In our imaginary Iron Age village, the children worked through a variety of Celtic tasks and activities. The Celts were great craftsmen using metalwork to create brooches to decorate their clothes, clay for pots and smelting vessels, weaving for clothes, Celtic knots to symbolise the cycle of life.



In each round house, we had a different craft: in one, the children designed their own brooch, considering what the design would represent. For the Celts, the brooches represented the wearer's place in society; the more ornate they were the higher they were in society. Brooches were also often in the shape of animals, the more highly regarded the animal the higher the status of the wearer would be. In another, natural materials were collected and used for weaving. The Celts were some of the first early farmers, changing from hunter-gatherers to growing their own crops and looking after their own animals. Wool was used to weave into cloth for clothing

and use in the home. In a third, we used papers to create Celtic knot designs. For the designs the children needed to think about the colours and shapes used, explaining what they represented in their design. eg. green circles showed the changing of the season, yellow circles the life cycle of man etc. In the next, clay was used to create round houses, these will be put together in the classroom to create our own miniature Iron Age village.

In the open land of our settlement, the children invented their own target games, in order to refine their hunting skills (no animals or birds were hurt in the process, in fact I'm sure I heard muffled sniggering from on-looking rabbits and pigeons!). Thank you for your efforts with Celtic costumes, we really did have a super day.



Our next dress up day will be for the Tudors, again please do not feel you need to go out buying costumes, as with the Celts most of you have things at home that make perfect costumes.



In other work; for English we started our work on a traditional tale set in Celtic England called 'The Man and the Forest'; this will form the basis of our work for the next few weeks.

In maths, we applied our previous work on fractions by thinking about adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator, and different ways we could make a whole. Fractions will be the focus of our work next week.



Our geography knowledge was developed by considering the question, why settle here? We thought carefully about what early settlers would have looked for when choosing a place to settle. We will come back to this when we visit Ashwell later in the term.

Ashwell will form the focus of our 'Pathways through the Past' topic. Just for interest 'Ashwell at Home' day is on 14th of May. <https://www.ashwellathome.org.uk/>

This week jokes! (I'm not sure how long I can keep the jokes going for, please at least one of you laugh, so they are worth it)

**What did you learn in school today, son?**

*Not enough, dad. I have to go back tomorrow.*

**Why are you late for class, Peter?**

*Because of the sign on the road?*

**What sign, Peter?**

*School Ahead. Go slow!*

### **Weekly home activities**

- **Reading, please aim for at least 4x weekly** noting what has been read in the reading diary.
- Mathletics and Spelling Frame
- Tackling table practise.

### **Dates for the diary**

School class photos Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May Burghley House visit.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend

**From Mrs Seward and the Year Three team**



## News from Swift Class (Year 4)

Our topic this term is called 'Our Fragile Planet' where we will be looking at issues surrounding climate change and what we can do to help. In our English lessons we have been looking at non-chronological reports related to the subject of climate change.

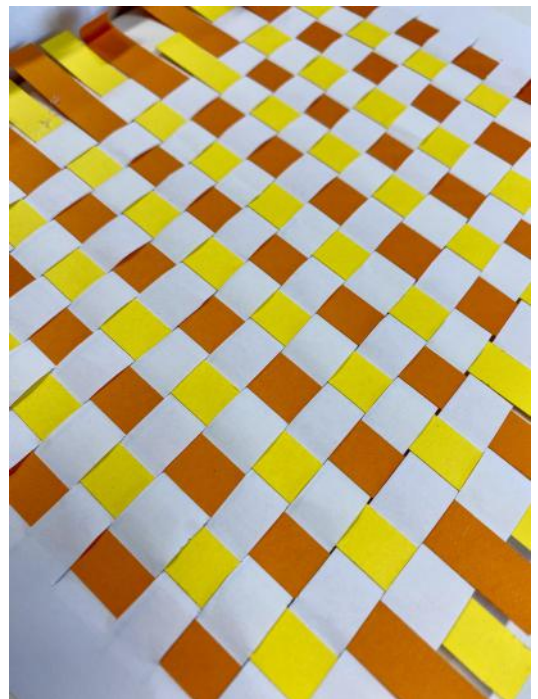


In June we are looking forward to visiting a recycling centre that specialises in school visits to see what happens to the materials we send for recycling. I will be sending a letter shortly about this.

We continue work on fractions in our Maths lessons, exploring how they are represented in the context of mixed numbers.

**Can you help? Do you have, or do you know anyone else who may have balls of wool or yarn they no longer need?** This term we are completing a unit of work on textile art - We have started to learn about different ways of weaving and how material is structured. We wish to offer the children as wide a range of materials that we can find. We would be most grateful for any wools or yarns that you no longer need. Pieces as short as a metre in length will be useful to us, so offcuts will be just as welcome as larger amounts.

### Mr Beavan and the Year 4 Team





## News from Heron Class (Year 5)

It has been lovely to see the children back this week looking happy and refreshed and to hear about the things they have been up to over the Easter break. We hope that you have also been able to find some time to rest, relax and perhaps even spend some time outside in the sunshine.

Unbelievably, we have reached the summer term already. We have plenty of exciting things planned for our final term together and have jumped straight in by starting our new topic all about North America called 'What a Wonderful World.' As part of our preparations for this the classroom is undergoing a little bit of a makeover as we are creating five zones to link with some of the geographical content of our topic. We spent time on Tuesday talking about biomes – tundra, desert, forest, grassland and aquatic and so our artwork next week will involve creating these landscapes in the classroom – as you can imagine the children have some very imaginative, creative and ambitious ideas!

For more details about our topics this term and some of the special events planned please see the 'Year 5' class page of our website which is in the process of being updated.

This week in English, we have started work on a new genre, recounts. We have looked at the features of writing that are specific to this genre and have begun to plan our own piece of work recounting our adventures at Grafham (or the equivalent time that we spent in school) at the end of last term.

In Maths, we have started some work on perimeter and area by calculating the perimeter of rectangles, rectilinear shapes and polygons, thinking carefully about different units of measurement – metres, centimetres and millimetres.

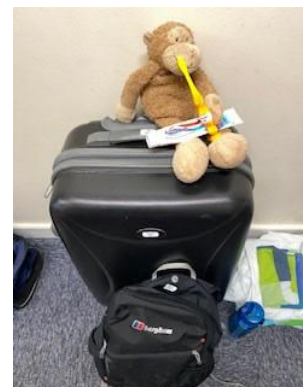
In Italian, we have started to learn the titles for family members and have begun to create a booklet about our families that we look forward to sending home for you to see soon.

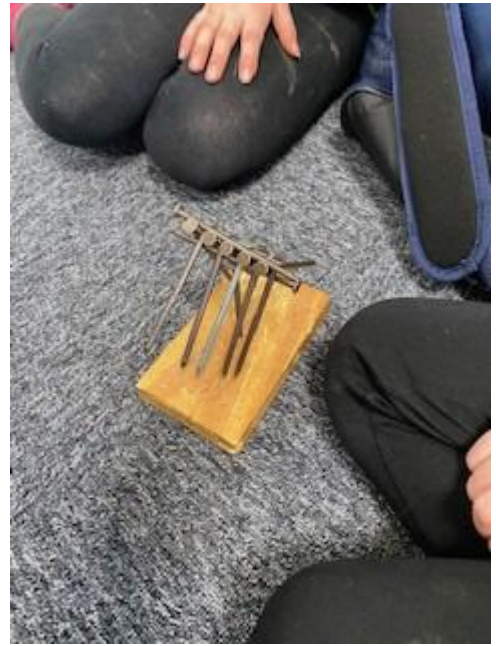
We will be sending home details of a date much later in the term (provisionally Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July) when we would like to invite parents into school to see the children's work and to look through our many photos of Grafham. Look out for an invitation after half term.

Finally, a huge thank you from all of the Year 5 Team for the kind gifts that you had organised to greet us on our return from Grafham. They were very much appreciated and a genuine surprise and, for most of us we have to say, they did not hang around for long!

With thanks for your continued support,

**The Year 5 Team.**











## News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

Firstly, a big thank you to all the children, with help from their parents, who completed the homework over the Easter break in preparation for SATs next month. I hope you found it interesting and worthwhile.

In class, we will be working towards SATS with a focus on Maths, SPAG and reading over the next few weeks. Homework will continue to be set in the lead up to the tests. As well as the usual spellings, SPAG and Maths tasks please could your child work through any areas that they feel they need to revise from the Mathletics website. I will also be setting up some tasks on Maths.co.uk (your child knows their username and password). We will do the majority of the tasks in school but please feel free to complete any tasks and corrections at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team**



### **Transition to Bassingbourn Village College**

Children will be at BVC on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July, then back here at Steeple for their last day on Weds 19<sup>th</sup>.

# PARISH PANTRY

## Local Food Bank



We will be opening a village foodbank in St Peter & St Paul Church from Monday 18th July

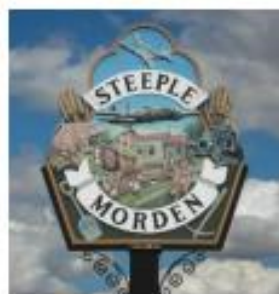
There will be Plastic boxes left in the porch of the church for people to leave their donations in or take required items.

This is open and available to all that need it, whether you don't want to waste petrol to go and buy a bag of sugar, you need a full meal to feed your self, your children, or you have no transport to get to the shops.

If you are in a position to donate items required are:

Tinned Meat, Pies, Veg, Potatoes & Fruit  
Cereals  
UHT Milk  
Sugar  
Flour  
Pasta  
Pasta sauces  
Mug shots  
Pot noodles  
Individual wrapped cakes

Location:  
St Peter & St Paul Church  
Steeple Morden  
SG8 0NJ



For more info:  
Sam Carroll  
07494 588663  
[sdcarroll849@gmail.com](mailto:sdcarroll849@gmail.com)

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**Café Church is back!**

This friendly café runs every Friday morning 9-11  
during term time in Steeple Morden Church

Tea, coffee, home-made cake  
Toys and lots of space for little ones  
Do join us after school drop-off




CALLING THE NEW YEAR 3s!!

Our team for the new U9 Season is moving to the 7 a side  
format and is short on players! Please come and join this  
great little squad!

**JOIN US  
MORDEN MAGPIES FC**

Get in touch at [hello@mordenmagpies.co.uk](mailto:hello@mordenmagpies.co.uk)

**POSITIVE. EXCITING. FUN.**

# Community News

Events / Adverts / Messages posted on our website Community Page

Smarties Preschool  
Litlington Preschool  
Helen O-Grady Drama Classes  
MF Tennis Coaching  
St Ives Town Football Club Tots Programme  
Stage Right Centre for Performing Arts classes  
Bonfitness Pilates  
Modern Foreign Languages Tuition  
Royston Hockey Club Juniors Section  
Biggleswade Swimming Club  
Perse Summer School 2023  
Theatretrain Royston  
Cambridge Literary Festival - 19th - 23rd April 2023  
Steeple Morden Tennis Club

**To find out more please go to the Community page on the Website: <https://www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk/community>**

*"Be brave enough to live life creatively. The creative place where no one else has ever been."*

**Alan Alda**

## Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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Website: [www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk)

